506.39083VX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

KINO, et al

Serial No.:

Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of U.S. Patent

Application 09/663,795, filed September 18,

2000

Filed:

Herewith

For:

METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-AMINO ACIDS BY

FERMENTATION

Group of Parent:

1651

Examiner of Parent:

H. Lilling

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

December 21, 2001

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On the title page, delete the abstract.

Page 1, before line 1 "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION", insert the following:

J-cross reference to related applications

This application is a Divisional Application of Application Serial No. 09/663,795 filed September 18, 2000.

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